

5-16-69 Eight Arrested In FBI Raid on Panther Office

CHICAGO (AP) — Federal agents raided the headquarters of the militant Black Panthers today, arrested eight persons and seized a quantity of weapons and ammunition.

About 35 FBI agents conducted the early morning raid on the two-story headquarters on the West Side, at 2350 W. Madison St.

A number of city police were stationed nearby in case of trouble in the predominantly Negro neighborhood.

MARLIN W. JOHNSON, special agent in charge of the Chicago FBI office, said the agents were seeking George Sams Jr., a fugitive from New Haven, Conn., who is charged with murder and kidnaping.

Sams was not among those arrested.

The agents cordoned off the area around the headquarters and then, using a bull-horn, called on those inside to come out. The agents were armed with machine guns, shotguns, rifles and pistols. Several took up positions on the roof of the headquarters.

Johnson said seven persons, including two women, emerged from the headquarters and surrendered without resistance.

THE AGENTS entered the building, Johnson said, and confiscated weapons, ammunition and records found in the second floor office.

Traffic in busy Madison Street was blocked off for a block while the raid was in progress.

The FBI identified those arrested as Georgia Washington, 18, Andrea Graves, Patrick Keene, 20, Larry M. Roberson, 20, Harvey D. Holt, 25, Jessie Ward, Bruce A. Dickson and Lockett Bibbs.

ALL WERE CHARGED with harboring a federal fugitive and illegal possession of weapons.

Sams, the man they are charged with harboring, was sought on a federal warrant charging him with unlawful flight to avoid prosecution for murder.

Johnson said Sams is under indictment in New Haven on charges of murder, conspiracy to commit murder, kidnaping and conspiracy to commit kidnaping.